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AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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DEPARTMENT FOR AF, AF/C, INR, DRL; LONDON AND PARIS FOR AFRICAWATCHERS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/08/2015 TAGS: <u>PGOV PHUM PREL KDEM CD</u>

SUBJECT: CHAD: LONG AWAITED CABINET RESHUFFLE

Classified By: Political/Economic Officer Kathleen FitzGibbon for reaso ns 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 11. (SBU) Summary: President Idriss Deby reshuffled his cabinet on August 7, placing the Ministry of Defense under the Presidency. Key changes include the Ministers of Defense, Foreign Affairs, Public Security, and Finance. The new cabinet may reflect the President's security concerns and his ire with previous ministers in the wake of the public referendum. The replacement of fifteen ministers is the largest reshuffling in recent memory. The cabinet was expanded by three members and the number of female ministers increased from three to six. End Summary.
- 12. (U) President Idriss Deby changed his cabinet on August 17. Prime Minister Pascal Yoadimnadji dubbed the new cabinet "the Government of Combat". The new government's "mission" will be to win the upcoming communal elections in October and the presidential and legislative elections in early 2006. Yaodimnadji complained that the previous ministers failed to eradicate mismanagement, embezzelement, insecurity, and impunity. Deby reportedly advised the new appointees to be open to the media, on message, and discreet about discussions among ministers. Ruling party Secretary General, Mahamat Hissein, commented that independent journalists are now facing problems because they have sided with opposition parties. Otherwise, Hissein said that the ruling Movement for Patriotic Salvation would have intervened to assist them.
- 13. (C) Most observers expected a cabinet change after the previous ministers failed to produce a "oui massif" in the public referendum on June 6. The President's travel to France for a medical vacation from June 15-July 15 precluded making changes until his return. The most noteworthy changes were the removal of Defense Minister Emmanuel Nadingar and Public Security Minister Abderahman Moussa and placement of the Ministry of Defense under the Presidency. Previously, the Ministry of Defense reported to the Prime Minister. Nadingar has been named Minister of Transport. President Deby reportedly intended on making his son, Brahim Deby, the Minister of Defense. Civilian and military sources told us that the French opposed such a move, delaying the reshuffle. The placement of the military under the Presidency may be aimed at consolidating Deby's control over the military, particularly at a time when he is concerned about security in the north and east. Bichara Issa Djadallah, a Minister at the Presidency, is now in charge of National Defense. Bichara, an ethnic Arab, reportedly is well-placed to handle threats in the north, especially from Libya. The move may enhance the ability of Deby's son, Brahim, who serves aa a Secretary in the Presidency, to call on the military for

14. (C) Minister of Public Security and Immigration Abderahman Moussa's departure also surprised many observers

as he was considered to be the linchpin to maintaining physical security in the country. One source suggested that after last week's coup in Mauritania, Deby may have decided to put a less independent actor in charge of security. Moussa may end up as a security advisor within the Presidency. Routuang Golum, former Commerce Minister, has been named Moussa's successor. Golum, a former military general, interacted frequently with the Embassy on trade and commerce matters while serving as Commerce Minister. He was active at Commerce despite his lack of experience in commercial matters. His security background makes him better suited for his new posting at Public Security. However, we do not expect him to act as independently as Moussa.

- ¶5. (C) An interesting addition to the cabinet is Mahamat Garfa as Minister of Post and New Communications Technology. He is a former head of the National Resistance Army (ANR). His inclusion may be a reward for his Tama rebels' infiltration and sabotage of Mahamat Nour's movement.
- 16. (SBU) Two members of Chad's Mediation Team for Darfur were promoted. They are both out of the country traveling on Darfur-related consultations so it is not yet clear whether they will surrender their Darfur responsibilities. Ahmad Allam-mi moves from his position as Special Advisor to the

President for International Relations to Foreign Minister and the Chairman of the Joint Commission on the Cease-fire on Darfur, General Mahamat Ali Abdullah, was named Minister for Territorial Administration. Some are surprised that Ali was named to this post, which oversees the Governors and Prefects, given that he is often rumored to be a likely successor to Deby. He had previously served as Prefect of Moundou, Minister of Public Security and Finance. Longtime Foreign Minister Nagoum Yamassoum reportedly will join the "Francophonie" Institute in Paris, which is increasingly serving as a mechanism for French support for African elections. His positioning there is a prelude to next year's presidential elections.

17. (SBU) IMF Resident Representative Wayne Camard is satisfied with the naming of former Cabinet Director and nephew of the President, Abbas Tolli, as Minister of Finance. Tolli, according to Cammard is a strong manager and his ties to the Presidency could be important to future budget discussions.

NEW GOVERNMENT LIST

18. (U) The newly appointed ministers include:

Minister of State for Infrastructure: Adoum Younousmi Deputy Minister of Infrastructure for Transport: Emmanuel Nadingar Minister of State, Minister of National Education, Youth, and Sports: Avocksouma Djona Deputy Minister of Education for Primary and Secondary Education: Mahamat Maouloud Izzadine Deputy Minister of Education for University, Scientific Research, and Professional Training: Dr. Idriss Ali Faroukh Deputy Minister of Education for Youth and Sports: Oumar Boukar Minister of Foreign Affairs and African Integration: Ahmad Allam-mi Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and African Integration: Dillah Lucienne Minister of Public Health: Moussa Khadam Minister of Justice: Ngarta Mbaiouroun Edouard Minister of Finance: Abbas Mahamat Tolli Deputy Minister of Finance in Charge of Budget: Nadjalta Mirangaye Minister of Agriculture: Payimi Padacke Albert Deputy Minister at the Presidency for National Defense: Bichara Issa Djadallah Minister of Economy, Plan, and Cooperation: Mahamat Ali Hassan Minister of Territorial Administration: Gen. Mahamat Ali Abdullah Minister of Public Security and Immigration: Routouang Yoma Golom Minister of Environment and Water: Hissein Ahmed Senoussi Deputy Minister for Water Resources: Haoua Outman Minister of Livestock: Mahamat Allamine Bourma Minister of Urban Management and Housing: Dr. Chene Adoum Minister of Social Action and Family: Hassan Terap

Minister of Civil Service, Labor, and Employment: Fatime Kimto

Minister of Ethics, Inspector General: Mahamat Bechir Okormi Minister of Commerce and Artisans: Carmelle Ngarmbatina Minister of Postal Service, New Technology, and

Minister of Mines and Energy: Youssouf Abassallah Minister of Petroleum: Mahamat Nasser Hassan

Secretary General of Government: Djividi Boukar

Government: Hourmadji Moussa Doumngor

Communications: Mahamat Garfa

Minister of Communication, Culture, Spokesperson for the

## SIPDIS

Assistant Secretary of Government: Mirian Moussa Ali Deputy Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights: Abderamane Djasnabaille

## COMMENT

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 $\P 9.$  (C) Aside from the movement of the Defense Ministry under Presidential control, the other cabinet changes do not signal any real change in direction or likely improvement in

government performance. The departure of many cabinet members was expected after they failed to produce a large turn-out for the public referendum on June 6. It is questionable whether this team will fare any better.

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